

Utah Commission on Volunteers

2004 Annual Report





STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY
84114-0601

OLENE S. WALKER
GOVERNOR

GAYLE F. MCKEACHNIE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

December 2004

I am very pleased to note that the Utah Commission on Volunteers, chaired by Lieutenant Governor Gayle McKeachnie, has accomplished great things this past year. I have been pleased to be personally involved with the Commission for the past 10 years. Some of the year's achievements are highlighted in this Annual Report.

While another state is called "The Volunteer State," Utah can claim the title "The State that Volunteers!" A research study released in June 2004 by the Points of Light Foundation and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis confirmed that Utah enjoys the highest adult volunteer rate in the nation. Strong partnerships have been forged among many organizations that invest time, funds and other resources in support of volunteerism. Utahns are serving each other in communities throughout our state. I invite you to read on for wonderful examples of caring and giving.

The Commission on Volunteers and its partners can be great resources to each of us as we look for ways to enrich our communities. Go to www.volunteers.utah.gov for excellent ideas. As Utahns, we take pride in our volunteer reputation. I encourage you to keep up the good work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Olene S. Walker".

Olene S. Walker
Governor

About the Commission



The Utah Commission on Volunteers, which was created by statute in February 1994, is made up of 25 members appointed by the Governor and Chaired by the Lt. Governor. The Commission is housed jointly in the Lt. Governor's Office and the state's Division of Housing and Community Development. The mission of the Utah Commission on Volunteers is to improve communities through service and volunteering in Utah.

The Commission's responsibilities include: administering AmeriCorps programs and coordinating all Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) related service in the state, administering Utah's State Citizen Corps Council and serving as the Point of Contact for all Utah Citizen Corps efforts, overseeing all efforts promoting America's Promise: The Alliance for Youth in the state, and providing technical support to Utah's Volunteer Centers. The Commission also recognizes outstanding community and volunteer service through awards like the Governor's Points of Light Award and presents training opportunities such as the annual Utah Conference on Service.

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About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, engages tens of thousands of Americans nationwide in intensive, results-driven service each year in the areas of education, public safety, health and the environment. Along with the experience of a lifetime, AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance, health insurance and training. After completing their terms of service, AmeriCorps members receive an education award to be used for their past and future tuition expenses. AmeriCorps members serve Utah through the AmeriCorps*NCCC and AmeriCorps*VISTA programs, besides the AmeriCorps Education Award, AmeriCorps*State, and AmeriCorps Promise Fellows programs administered by the Utah Commission on Volunteers.

10 Years of AmeriCorps in Utah

The Commission held an AmeriCorps Kick-off and 10 Year Celebration on October 7, 2004. Current and past AmeriCorps program directors and members joined in this opportunity to celebrate both the graduation of AmeriCorps members completing their terms as well as swear-in new AmeriCorps members just starting their terms of service.

A report of accomplishments and impacts of AmeriCorps*State and National programs, AmeriCorps*VISTA, and AmeriCorps*NCCC over the past 10 years was also featured. It was reported that 3,000 Utahns have served in AmeriCorps since its inception, earning over \$7.5 million in education awards. Governor Olene S. Walker, who helped bring AmeriCorps to Utah 10 years ago, made remarks and led new members in the AmeriCorps pledge.

Earth Day Service Project

AmeriCorps members from all over the state met at Zion National Park for an Earth Day Service Project. Held in conjunction with mid-year AmeriCorps training, the project involved working with botanists from the park to remove noxious weeds and clean up public trails.

AmeriCorps*State Programs

During the 2004 program year, AmeriCorps members will earn Education Awards totaling \$471,751. While some programs have not yet completed their program year, to date 167 AmeriCorps members have served over 136,000 hours this year, and mobilized more than 3,000 volunteers who gave 21,821 hours of service.

Utah Conservation Corps

Mission: Improving the quality of public natural resources through AmeriCorps and community efforts.

Mobilizing Volunteers: Volunteers worked this summer to complete a section of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail above Logan.

Member Hours: 25,004

Volunteer Hours: 1,451



Amy, an AmeriCorps member serving at the National Ability Center in Park City, enjoys teaching skiing to people with disabilities.

National Ability Center

Mission: Developing lifetime skills for people with disabilities through outdoor recreational programs.

Mobilizing Volunteers: Volunteers assisted with horseback riding, skiing and snowboarding lessons.

Member Hours: 6,408
Volunteer Hours: 3,572

AmeriCorps and the Medically Underserved

Mission: Reducing economic, geographic, cultural and language barriers to health care.

Mobilizing Volunteers: Volunteers helped with the Childrens Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) enrollment outreach program and spent time interpreting for those with language barriers.

Member Hours: 38,611
Volunteer Hours: 3,242

Youth Garden Project

Mission: Provides educational experiences to high risk youth through gardening and community service projects.

Mobilizing Volunteers: Monthly "Weed and Feed" brings volunteers to work in the garden for an afternoon, afterwards the staff provides a healthy dinner using produce from the garden.

Member Hours: 8,305
Volunteer Hours: 640

Utah Valley Corps (Education Award Program)

Mission: Provide mentoring and tutoring for children in math and reading.

Mobilizing Volunteers: 450 volunteers were trained to be mentors within the Provo School District.

Member Hours: 42,013
Volunteer Hours: 13,500

AmeriCorps Promise Fellows

After six successful years of delivering the Five Promises to children and youth, the Promise Fellows program ended nationwide in 2004. This year, 15 Promise Fellows served in Utah at the Cache County Sheriff's Department, Cedar City Neighborhood Watch, Dixie's Promise in St. George, Layton Community Action Council, Mt. Logan Middle School, Salt Lake's Promise & Governor's Commission on Literacy, Utah 4-H, United Way of Utah County, Utah County Health Department and with Utah's Promise efforts statewide.



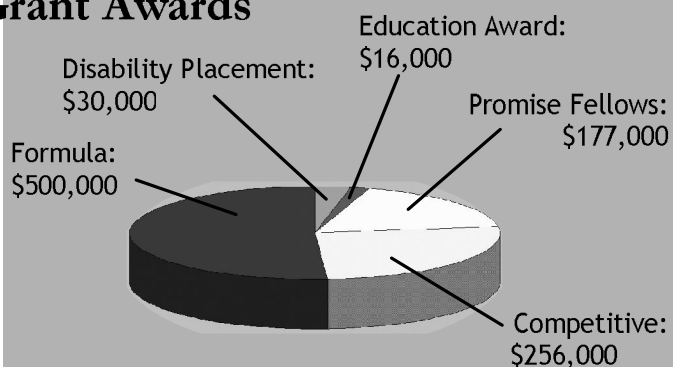
Mission: Promise Fellows work to bring the Five Promises to more of Utah's youth.

Mobilizing Volunteers: Community service projects were held throughout the state focusing on literacy and youth.

Member Hours: 22,159
Volunteer Hours: Approximately 1,000

Contact Information and details about these and other Corporation for National and Community Service programs in Utah can be found at volunteers.utah.gov.

2004 AmeriCorps Grant Awards



A total of \$979,000 in Federal AmeriCorps program funding was awarded to the state of Utah for the 2004 Program Year. (This does not include national direct or VISTA funding, which was also awarded to organizations in the state.)

Utah Citizen Corps Mission

To harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared.

Restructuring of Utah Citizen Corps Council

The Utah Citizen Corps Council was formally reorganized in February 2004 after a yearlong joint leadership structure by the directors of Utah's Division of Emergency Services & Homeland Security and the Utah Commission on Volunteers. On February 19th, 2004, Citizen Corps was officially adopted as a program and sub-committee of the Utah Commission on Volunteers. The Governor appointed Larry Ellertson as Chair of the state council, and Scott Snow as the official state Point of Contact for Citizen Corps. The Utah State Citizen Corps Council meets monthly and is comprised of 12 members representing public safety professionals and volunteer service networks.

The state council primarily plays a coordination and communications role. They reach out to public safety professionals and jurisdictions in helping citizens take a more active role in crime prevention, risk reduction, and emergency preparedness. They are also involved in promoting the charter programs of Citizen Corps:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)
- Medical Reserve Corps

The state Citizen Corps Council serves as a resource link between the national Citizen Corps initiative and local and regional councils throughout Utah. The state council encourages local and regional councils to link efforts with existing volunteer service networks

such as the 20 Volunteer Centers across the state and with the programs of the Corporation for National and Community Service (including AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps*VISTA and Senior Corps programs). The state council also provides training to local councils and facilitates partnerships with public safety professionals to maximize resources statewide.

FEMA Region VIII Citizen Corps Conference

In conjunction with the 2004 Utah Conference on Service, the Utah Citizen Corps Council hosted the FEMA Region VIII Citizen Corps Conference for representatives from neighboring states and welcomed the national director of Citizen Corps and director of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness as featured speakers.

Utah's Citizen Corps Greeter

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, on a visit to Utah in May, was met by Citizen Corps Greeter Mark Bradford of West Valley City. Mr. Bradford has served as the President of the West Valley CERT Association for the past 5 years.

2004 Citizen Corps Grants

The purpose of this grant was to establish and/or sustain city, county or regional Citizen Corps Councils and to engage citizens in each respective community to inform the public about their roles and responsibilities as individuals to be prepared, to be trained and to volunteer. On June 18:

- 33 grants were awarded to local units of government in Utah.
- A total of \$340,800 in federal dollars was awarded. Largest grant award being \$43,050 and the smallest amount being \$5,000

2004 Utah Citizen Corps Grantees

Beaver County Citizen Corps Council
Brigham City Citizen Corps Council
Cache County Citizen Corps Council
Carbon County Citizen Corps Council
Central Utah Regional Citizen Corps Council
Eagle Mountain City Citizen Corps Council
Emery County Citizen Corps Council
Fruit Heights City Citizen Corps Council
Garfield County Citizen Corps Council

Green River City Citizen Corps Council
Grand County Citizen Corps Council
Iron County Citizen Corps Council
Midvale City Citizen Corps Council
Millard County Citizen Corps Council
Millard County CERT
North Davis Citizen Corps Council
Northern Utah Regional Citizen Corps Council
Ogden City Citizen Corps Council

Utah Citizen Corps was able to supply more than 90% of grant applicants with funding, sustaining existing Citizen Corps programs and establishing new Citizen Corps councils in 25 of Utah's 29 counties.

In the fall of 2004, Utah Citizen Corps conducted three orientations for new councils (local & multi-county).

Emergency Preparedness Month

Governor Olene S. Walker declared September 2004 as Emergency Preparedness Month in the State of Utah celebrating National Preparedness Month. Numerous events occurred throughout the state.

On September 18th, the four American Red Cross chapters in Utah and Blood Services joined together to launch a preparedness effort called "Together We Prepare". The Utah Commission on Volunteers has been an active supporter of this campaign, which

focuses on workplace, individual and family preparedness. Every person is encouraged to make a plan, build a kit, get trained, volunteer and give blood.

Homeland Security: Engaging the Community

The Utah Commission on Volunteers hosted two regional Homeland Security trainings this year. The curriculum, which was developed by the Western Community Policing Center, taught community leaders to develop vigilant, prepared, and resilient community groups. In March, 52 participants from the Logan area participated in the two-day course, and in October, an additional 50 participants were trained in Sandy City. Those attending included representatives from law enforcement, first responders, city officials, Citizen Corps councils and community leaders.

Utah Citizen Corps Website Launched

The Utah Citizen Corps Council recently launched a new website: www.citizencorps.utah.gov. This site now makes it possible for Utah residents to access all the pertinent information about Citizen Corps efforts from one location. Individuals, families or groups can find information on how to be better prepared in the event of a disaster, how to receive training in first aid and emergency skills, and how to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety.

Visitors can also view the latest information on how to form or strengthen a local Council, as well as learn more about the Utah Citizen Corps Council by visiting the website.



CERT members provide equipment to team members during training exercises in La Verkin.



Orem City Citizen Corps Council
Park City Citizen Corps Council
Salt Lake City Citizen Corps Council
Salt Lake County Citizen Corps Council
Sandy City Citizen Corps Council
Sanpete County Citizen Corps Council
Southwest Utah Regional Citizen Corps Council
Taylorsville City Citizen Corps Council
Tooele County Citizen Corps Council

Utah Council for Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch
Utah County Medical Reserve Corps
Utah Peace Institute/Utah Consortium of Minority Groups (SL County)
Washington County Citizen Corps Council
Wayne County Citizen Corps Council
Woodland Hills (City of) Citizen Corps Council

As the state with the highest volunteer rate in the nation, Utah has many outstanding volunteers who deserve recognition. For this reason, the Utah Commission on Volunteers presents various service awards to spotlight the efforts of the unsung heroes in our state.

Governor's Points of Light Award

Governor's Points of Light Awards are presented each year to 52 outstanding volunteers from throughout the state in awards ceremonies held quarterly on Utah's Capitol Hill. 208 individuals in Utah will have received this weekly award by the end of 2004.

Annual Volunteer Achievement Awards

Presented in conjunction with the annual Utah Conference on Service, these awards recognize groups and individuals who are improving Utah communities through service. The Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award, Lieutenant Governor's Civic Volunteer of the Year, Helping Hands Corporate Volunteer Program of the Year, Helping Hands Nonprofit Volunteer Program of the Year, and Volunteer Administrator of the Year awards recognize a wide range of Utahns for their role in making the state a better place.

This year a new award was added, the Youth Service Utah Award, which honors youth for their service. One outstanding youth volunteer, and one youth volunteer group received the award.

Silver Bowl Awards

This annual awards program was originally started in 1979 when Volunteer Centers coordinated a statewide volunteer recognition event. Since 1997, the Silver Bowl Awards have been spearheaded directly by the Utah Volunteer Centers Association, with the Utah Commission on Volunteers as a primary partner in coordinating the awards ceremony. This year the Silver

Bowl Awards were held at the Provo Marriott, with Fox 13 News anchor, Bob Evans serving as the host.

Volunteers from each of Utah's 29 counties were recognized for their service and awarded an engraved silver bowl, generously donated by OC Tanner Company, and presented by Lt. Governor Gayle F. McKeachnie.

Utah's Promise Red Wagon Awards

This award is given to individuals and groups who display a solid commitment to delivering Utah's Promise to youth. This year, the Red Wagon Award was given to Governor Olene S. Walker. Governor Walker was instrumental in starting Utah's Promise seven years ago, and continues to champion Utah's Promise today.



Lt. Governor Gayle McKeachnie presents the Vietnamese Volunteer Youth with the 2004 Youth Service Utah Award.

The award was presented by youth representing ten of the many organizations that have consistently partnered with the Utah Commission on Volunteers: 4-H, American Fork Literacy Center, Boys and Girls Clubs of South Valley, Girl Scouts of Utah, Health Occupations Students of America, Layton Youth Court, United Way of Utah County, Utah Campus Compact, Utah PTA and Youth and Families with Promise.

Detailed information about each award recipient in 2004 can be found at volunteers.utah.gov/awards.

2004 Utah Conference on Service

The Utah Commission on Volunteers and its partners - including Utah Campus Compact, the Corporation for National and Community Service Utah office, the State Office of Education/Learn & Serve (K-12), Utah Citizen Corps Council, State Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security, Salt Lake Community College's Thayne Center for Service and Learning, along with funding from FEMA Region VIII - partnered in hosting the 2004 Utah Conference on Service: "Engaging Community," on April 6-8 at the Delta Center in downtown Salt Lake City. Approximately 500 attendees and representatives of volunteer service organizations from across the state attended the conference to discuss current issues in service and volunteerism.

FEMA Region VIII Conference

This collaborative conference also incorporated the FEMA Region VIII Citizen Corps Conference and brought individuals from nearby states (Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota) as well as numerous representatives from Utah communities. Topics discussed included involving volunteers and National Service participants in Citizen Corps, CERT, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service, Medical Reserve Corps and other Law Enforcement issues.

Workshops

In the three-day span, over 75 workshops were presented on the latest trends and ideas in service-learning, national service, and volunteer and community service partnerships. Utah Campus Compact alone had over 40 presenters in 30

service learning workshops. Special guest presenters included Michael Benson, President of Snow College; Richard Wells, Senior Director of Community Mobilization at America's Promise; Brian Kauffman of Western Community Policing Center in Oregon; and Lura Cayton of Church World Service in Oklahoma. Specific training sessions were also held for AmeriCorps*VISTAs, AmeriCorps Promise Fellows, Learn & Serve (K-12) grantees and Senior Corps Directors. On the first evening, all Corporation for National and Community Service programs met for a "CNCS All Hands Meeting and Ice Cream Social," hosted by the Utah Commission on Volunteers and the Utah Volunteer Centers Association. In addition to networking and ice cream, attendees completed a service project benefiting the Happy Factory in Cedar City.

Citizen Corps

The last day of the conference was devoted to Citizen Corps training and information for FEMA Region VIII states, hosted by Utah's Citizen Corps Council. The day's activities included featured speakers Liz DiGregorio, national Director of Citizen Corps and C. Suzanne Mencer, Director of the Office for Domestic Preparedness with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. In addition, representatives from Medical Reserve Corps, Volunteers in Police Service, Neighborhood Watch and Utah CERT each presented information at workshops and plenary sessions.

"This gathering of leaders from across the state and country provides an excellent opportunity to expand professionally and to renew commitment. Now, more than ever, we need to encourage all communities to implement service as a strategy to bring us together."

**-Governor
Olene S.
Walker**

2004 Utah Conference on Service
engaging community



About Volunteer Centers

Utah's 20 Volunteer Centers are part of the Volunteer Center National Network of over 450 Volunteer Centers that partner with the Points of Light Foundation - a national nonprofit organization - to help individuals, groups and families become more effectively engaged in service to their communities. Since its inception, the Commission has helped increase the number of Volunteer Centers in Utah by 16 and created 1-800-250-SERVE and **www.ILiveToGive.org** to help Utahns connect to their local center.

Statewide Collaboration

Volunteer Center Directors and the Utah Volunteer Centers Association (UVCA) have been actively involved as contributors to the *Unified State Plan for National and Community Service in Utah*; serve on the Utah State Citizen Corps Council; lead or serve on local Citizen Corps Councils; collaborate in the statewide 211 Information and Referral service and the associated www.utahcares.utah.gov web site, which offers information about community resources and opportunities to serve. Some Volunteer Centers also lead local service coordinating councils and train or network the local coordinators of volunteers from organizations in their community.

AmeriCorps*VISTA Project

The Utah Volunteer Centers Association has successfully managed an AmeriCorps*VISTA program called Volunteer Connection. 13 AmeriCorps*VISTA members, placed at Volunteer Centers throughout the state, develop promotional materials, create partnerships with community organizations, cultivate funding and other resources, and recruit community volunteers to assist low-income residents and youth-at-risk in becoming more involved and productive citizens.



Live to Give

The I Live To Give partnership, developed as a goal in the *Unified State Plan for National and Community Service in Utah* 2002-2004, set up a web site to connect Utahns with their local Volunteer Center. The web site not only connects Utahns with their local Volunteer Center, but also links Utahns to over 50 national and state partner organizations. Public Service Announcements have appeared on radio and public access TV stations and some local centers use the logo/web site on their printed materials. While plans for TV commercials have not been realized, the logo has been prominently displayed on Commission letterhead this past year and a new partnership facilitated by the Commission on Volunteers has led to an ongoing I Live To Give feature in *Family Voice* magazine. This free magazine circulates 30,000 copies by distribution through schools, hospitals, adoption agencies and other family-related businesses along the Wasatch Front.

Funding

In almost every case, the many accomplishments of Volunteer Centers occur without dedicated and on-going funding. Each Volunteer Center uses other resources such as the existing funding from the parent organization (United Way, Senior Corps, local government, etc.) to better the communities they support. Grants and sponsorships are always being sought to cover the extra duties they have assumed by taking on the title of Utah Volunteer Center. In fact, the Utah Volunteer Centers Association has recently created an ad hoc committee to further develop the Association's standards and membership criteria.

Youth Conference on Service

The Utah Youth Conference on Service was held August 2-4, 2004 at the University of Utah. One hundred youth were trained in leadership and service related skills at this three-day intensive training. The theme of the conference was Get A Life- "You make a living by what you Get, you make A Life by what you give." -Winston Churchill. The Commission partnered with Utah Campus Compact, Utah State Office of Education, and the Lowell Bennion Community Service Center at the University of Utah to sponsor the conference.

Regional Youth Summits

Nearly 400 youth were trained in leadership and service skills at five regional summits held in Blanding, Logan, Provo, Salt Lake City and St. George and between April and June 2004.

Youth Service Utah Website

In 2004 the Youth Service Utah Website, developed by Utah's YES (Youth Engaged in Service) Ambassador, was launched to provide youth throughout the state with access to resources about service opportunities, scholar-

ships and awards, upcoming and past events as well as to provide a venue to recognize the service youth are doing in their communities throughout the state. Visit the website at utahspromise.org/ysu.

New Youth Service Utah Award

The Youth Service Utah awards were initiated to recognize outstanding youth volunteers in Utah. The first Annual Youth Service Utah Awards were presented to Kelsie Swindells of Salt Lake City, and the Vietnamese Volunteer Youth organization on April 7, 2004.



Participants at the Utah Youth Conference on Service, August 2-4, 2004

About Utah's Promise

Utah's Promise was launched just six months after America's Promise: The Alliance for Youth in 1997, both events included Founding Chair, Ret. General Colin Powell. Utah's Promise is a local, grass roots effort to provide children in the state with the Five Promises of caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, marketable skills and opportunities to serve.

2004 Accomplishments

Over the past year, Utah's Promise has brought the Five Promises to youth in Utah in new ways. Girl Scouts of Utah created the nation's first Troop of Promise and others have been formed, each committing to bring the Promises to youth in their communities. To date, 385 Girl Scouts in Utah have received the Troop of Promise patch for their service.



Utah's Promise

Three new trainers were recruited by Utah's Promise to attend the LeadershipPlenty Spanish pilot course hosted by the Pew Partnership for Civic Change in Atlanta, August 4-6. Tony Yapias, Director of the Utah Office of Hispanic Affairs, led the Utah team. LeadershipPlenty trainers have been delivering in English for two years, including this year's class of ten Davis County youth representing youth court, youth city council and Youth of Promise.

The year ended on a high note with a Utah's Promise presentation at the America's Promise State of Promise Forum in St. Paul on Oct. 28, 2004 by the Utah Commission on Volunteers and two of its partners, Girl Scouts of Utah and Utah Campus Compact. In addition, Governor Olene S. Walker was presented the 2004 Utah's Promise Red Wagon award from the youth of Utah on the 7th Anniversary of Utah's Promise.

2004 Commission Members

Lt. Gov. Gayle F. McKeachnie, Chair
Robert H. Garff, First Vice Chair
Beth Cottam, Second Vice Chair
Holly Isaman, Secretary
Larry Ellertson, Treasurer
Wally Brown
Rick Crawford
Linda Dunn
Myla Dutton
Larry Furr II
George Garwood
Elaine Gause
Patti Harrington
Bill Hulterstrom
Carolyn Hunter
Rich Kendell
Verne Larsen
Michael Lester
Joann Nielson
Dwight Rasmussen
Elder Donald L. Staheli
Gary Tom
Peter Van Hook
Darrell White
Verdi White



Staff Members

Scott G. Snow, Executive Director
Marie Schwitzer, Executive Assistant
Leann PoVey Jackson, Program Manager
Kathy Hyde, Program Manager
LaDawn Stoddard, Contract Specialist
Summer Beers, Public Relations
Teresa Oliver, YES Ambassador
Kristi Tanner, Citizen Corps Assistant
Kimberlee Winterton, PR Intern